

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING DR. GEORGE A. SIMPSON

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2022*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, from the 24th district of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize Dr. George A. Simpson, as he is honored by family and friends for his many contributions to Miami-Dade County and America.

Whereas, George Augustus Simpson was born on September 24, 1925, in New York, New York. He is a product of New York Public Schools having attended Townsend Harris High School. Dr. Simpson went on to receive a Bachelor of Science degree from City College of New York and a medical degree from Meharry Medical College; and

Whereas, Dr. Simpson served his country in the U.S. Army through Surgical Service. He is licensed to practice medicine in Florida, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Illinois. Dr. Simpson is the First Board Certified, Black general surgeon in the State of Florida. He went on to be an Instructor in Surgery at University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital where he was the first African American to perform major general surgery and to be on the teaching staff in General Surgery. He is a founding member of the Jackson Memorial's Service Employees International Union (SEIU), the first physician's union in Dade County. Dr. Simpson was a professor of Family Medicine from 1968 to 2000; and

Whereas, Dr. Simpson was very actively involved in his community through the Family Christian Association of America, the Coconut Grove Local Development Corporation, the Economic Opportunity Family Health Center, the New Horizons Local Development Corporation, the Alliance for Ethical Government, the Dade County Area Health Education Center, and many more community development corporations. He is an original Member of the Dade County Community Relations Board; and

Whereas, Dr. George Simpson's involvement in the community also included his work with community development as an owner, developer, Board Chairman, Board Member, and manager. This work resulted in the construction of over 250 affordable housing and homeless living units throughout Miami-Dade County; and now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That I, FREDERICA S. WILSON, a member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, honor Dr. George Simpson for all his contributions to the medical field, Miami-Dade County, and our country.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF BARRIO CAFÉ

**HON. RUBEN GALLEGO**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2022*

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Barrio Café. Since 2002, Barrio Café has been a Phoenix institution, serving up world-renowned Mexican food and promoting Mexican American arts and culture.

Barrio Café was founded by Chef Silvana Salcido Esparza and her business partner, Wendy Gruber. Chef Silvana grew up in the Central Valley of California, learning to cook at her grandmother's side and in her family's bakery. Since opening Barrio Café, she has been featured in Sunset Magazine, Esquire Magazine, and Food Network's Diners, Drive Ins and Dives, and she has been a finalist for the James Beard Award. Now, she is mentoring the next generation of chefs and small business owners.

Chef Silvana is also a community leader in her own right. She has tirelessly advocated for the rights of all in Arizona and has worked to feed those in need during the COVID-19 pandemic. Her leadership and vision have transformed a stretch of 16th Street into 'Calle 16,' a hub for local economic development, flourishing with Mexican art, murals, culture, and food.

For 20 years, Chef Silvana and the Barrio Café have embodied 'comida chingona'. I am lucky to get to call Chef Silvana and Wendy friends, and I wish them all the best on 20 more years of Barrio Café.

CELEBRATING COLFAX'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2022*

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of Colfax, Washington. This small town in Eastern Washington is known for its productive farmland and family-oriented atmosphere. Colfax is also the county seat of Whitman County—the largest wheat producing county in America—and is a hub for wheat growers that feeds our region and people all around the world.

The history of Colfax is a rich one with roots dating back to the late 1800s. First settled by James Perkins and Thomas Smith, the town was founded on July 10, 1870 and named after Schuyler Colfax, the 17th Vice President of the United States and 25th Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Today, the town continues to thrive amidst the beautiful rolling hills and fertile countryside of the Palouse. Complete with a healthy quan-

tity of history, opportunities, great education, family values, exciting culture, and so much more, it is without a doubt that wonderful things continue to grow in Colfax.

As the representative in Congress for this one-of-a-kind town, I am so inspired by Colfax's heritage of family values. The families here understand the value of a hard day's work on the farm and the invaluable life skills and lessons that come with it. Parents give everything to prepare their children to pursue the American Dream, whether that is one day taking over the family business or graduating college and starting a new career. The people of Colfax truly embody what it means to be from Eastern Washington, and they make it one of the best places to live in the world.

Madam Speaker, on this most special day, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Colfax's 150 years of remarkable history and celebrating their personification of the American spirit.

HONORING WAR HERO AND TRAILBLAZER LUIS R. SIERRA

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2022*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Luis Sierra. Mr. Sierra bravely defended our country during the Vietnam War and earned a Bronze Star Medal, the fourth highest military decoration for valor.

Born on December 2, 1949, Luis Sierra grew up in Cidra, Puerto Rico. Eventually moving with his family to the city of Ponce, Mr. Sierra was raised in a Roman Catholic household and was an avid player of baseball and basketball as an adolescent. After graduating high school in 1967, Mr. Sierra spent the next two years working as a Linotype operator.

Mr. Sierra left his job and enlisted in the Army on August 29, 1969. He spent the first few months of his service in Fort Jackson, South Carolina until he was called to join the 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry in the Republic of Vietnam. Arriving on March 18, 1970, his unit participated in numerous battles which resulted in 22 members of the unit, including Specialist Sierra, being awarded a Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service against a hostile enemy.

Along with the Bronze Star Medal, Mr. Sierra received multiple other awards for his service including the Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze service stars, the National Defense Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon with the 1960 Device, the Sharpshooter Badge with Rifle Bar, and the Vietnam Veteran Lapel pin.

Mr. Sierra was honorably discharged from active duty on April 2, 1971 and he remained in the Reserves until his service ended on July 23, 1975.

Upon his return home, Mr. Sierra married Silvia M. González with whom he had 3 children: Raúl J. Sierra, Silvette Sierra, and

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